

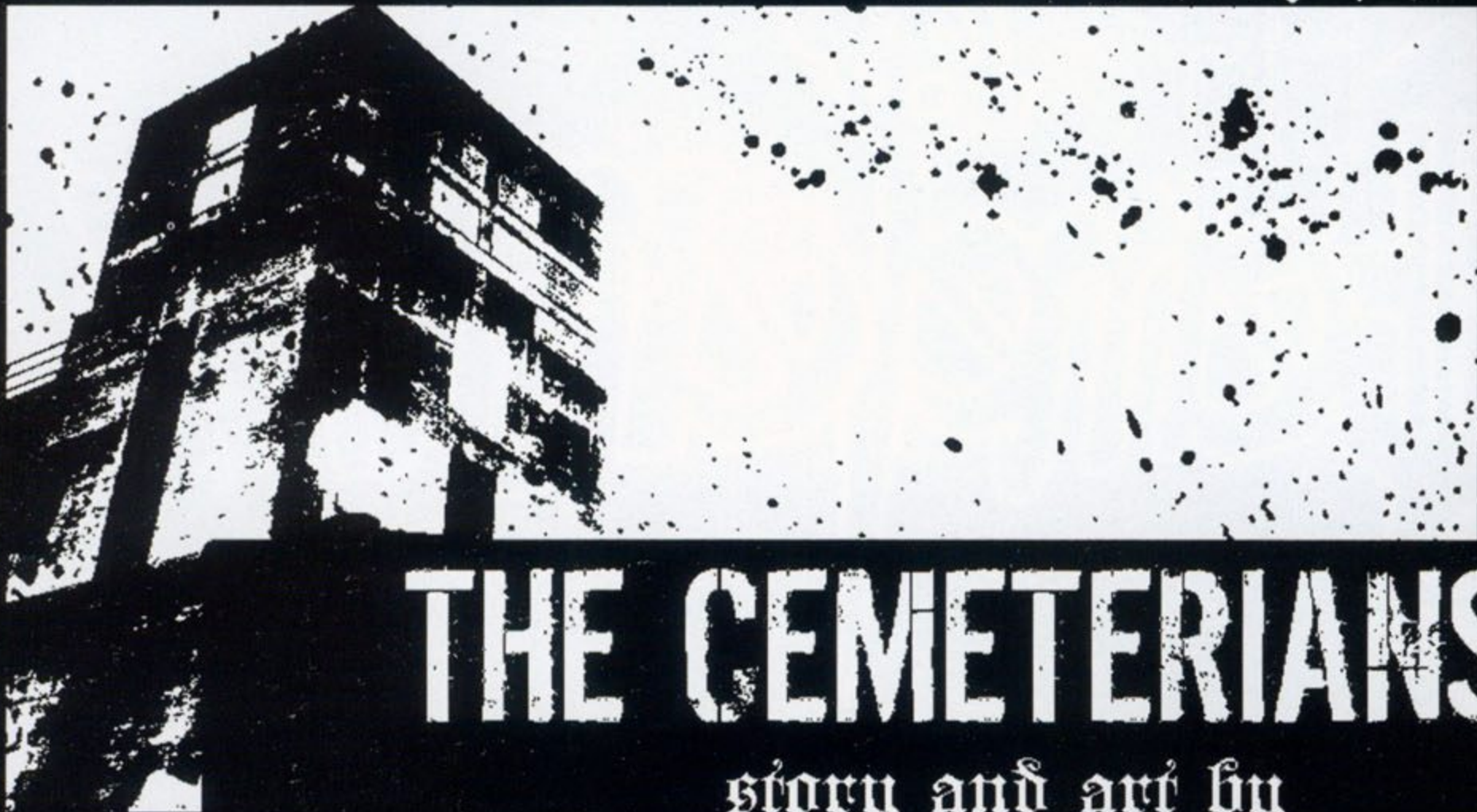


#1
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the Fameperians



by GilgRim



THE CEMETERIANS

story and art by
gilgrim



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SEWER LINE

CHAPTER

SOUP LINE

ZERO

HEY JACK!
DID I EVER MENTION
HOW MUCH I **HATE**
TRUDGING THROUGH
SEWERS, MAN?
THEY **STINK**,
THEY'RE **COLD**,
THEY'RE **FILTHY**,
AND THEY'RE
DARK . . .

DID
I MENTION
THAT THEY
STINK,
MAN?



STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN IN UNEXPECTED PLACES.
SOMETIMES.
BUT, SOMETIMES, THE REALLY STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN
IN EXACTLY THE PLACES WE ALWAYS THOUGHT THEY WOULD . . .





THIS HAD
BETTER NOT
HAVE ANYTHING
TO DO WITH MY
BABY SISTER.
AND I MEAN:
NOT-A-THING.



WHAD'YA
MEAN, MAN?
I-I
MEAN ...

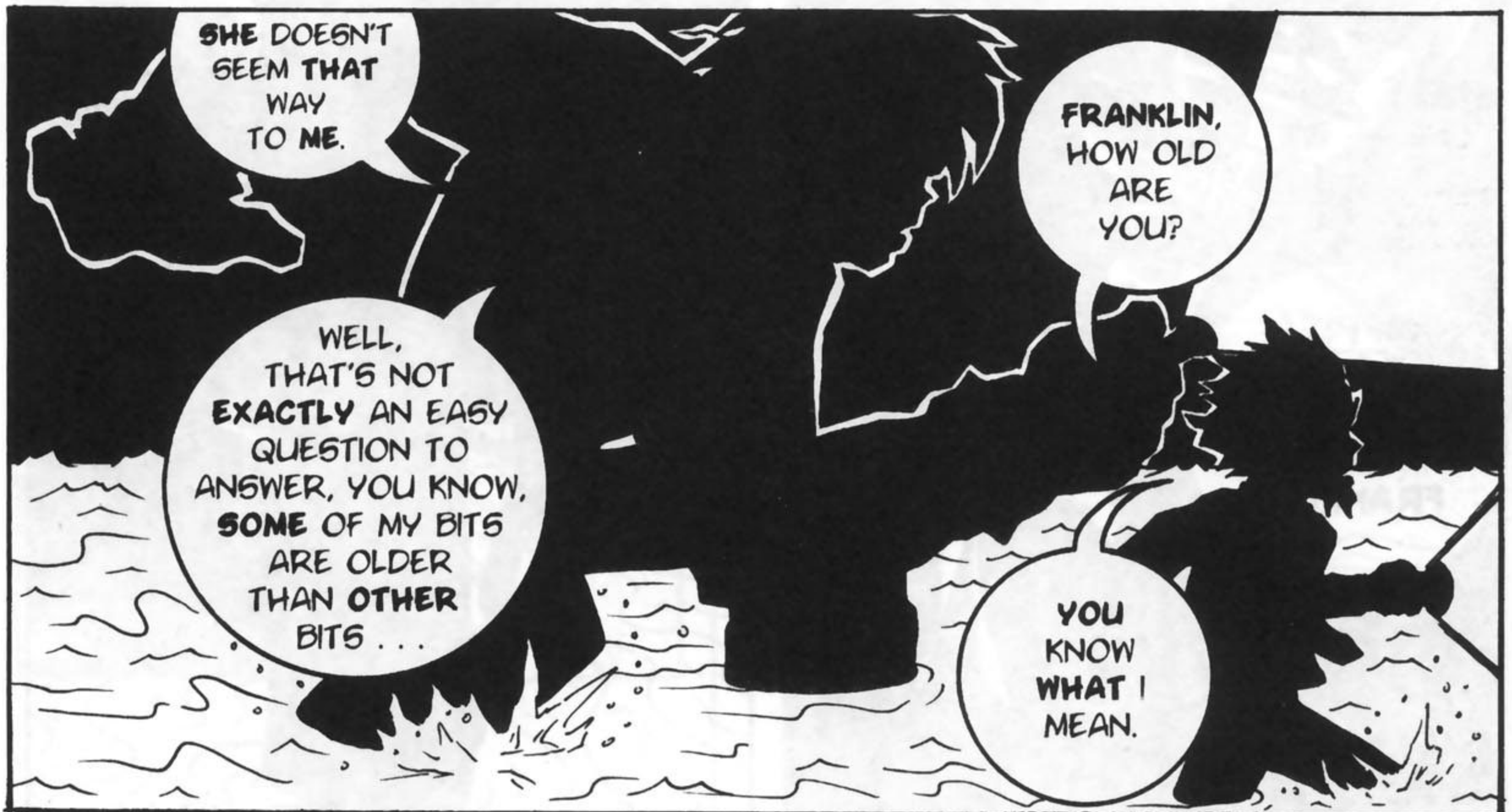


IV'E KNOWN
YOU SINCE
THE DAY
YOU WERE
CREATED--

THE TERM
IS 'ASSEMBLED,'
MAN. THE PARTS
WERE ALREADY
AROUND, MARLA
JUST PUT THEM
TOGETHER.



FINE, I'VE KNOWN YOU
SINCE YOU WERE FIRST
'ASSEMBLED,' BETTER?
THE POINT IS YOU
HAVEN'T KNOWN MARLA
THAT LONG. SHE'S MORE
THAN YOU REALLY
WANT TO TAKE ON,
TRUST ME.



SHE DOESN'T
SEEM THAT
WAY
TO ME.

WELL,
THAT'S NOT
EXACTLY AN EASY
QUESTION TO
ANSWER, YOU KNOW,
SOME OF MY BITS
ARE OLDER
THAN OTHER
BITS ...

FRANKLIN,
HOW OLD
ARE
YOU?

YOU
KNOW
WHAT I
MEAN.



MARLA
PUT ME
TOGETHER
ALMOST SIX YEARS
AGO, SO I GUESS
I'M ALMOST
SIX!



WELL, THAT
MAKES THIS REAL
EASY. WHEN IT
COMES TO MY BABY
SISTER, YOU SHOULD
REALLY BE TRUSTING
MY EXPERIENCE AND
EXPERTISE, BECAUSE
I'VE KNOWN HER MUCH
LONGER THAN
'ALMOST SIX YEARS.'
JUST TRUST WHAT
I TELL YOU,
OK?



I WAS
RIGHT
EARLIER.
YOU ARE A
REAL DRAG,
YOU KNOW
THAT?



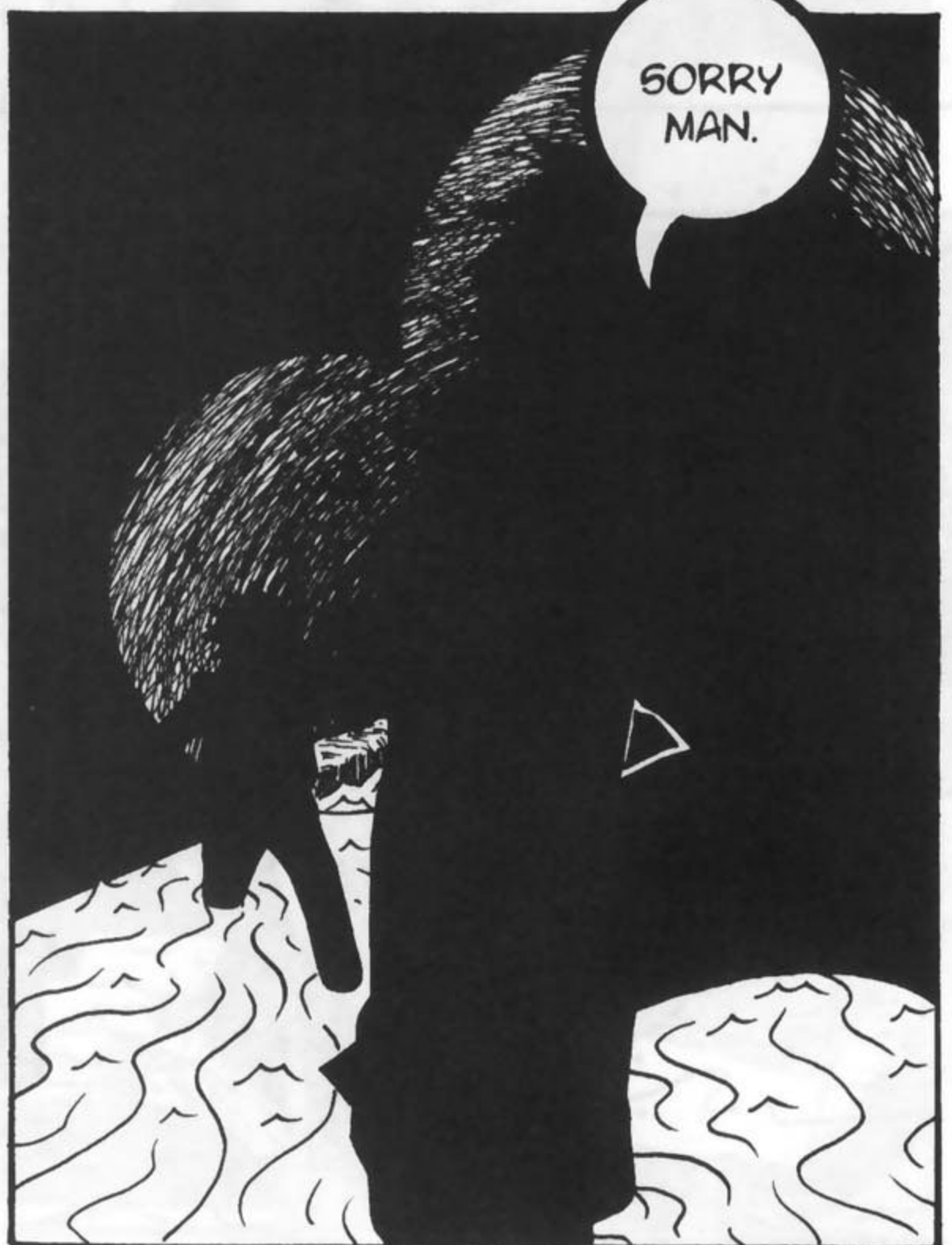
SHUT UP.
YOU'RE
STARTING
TO SOUND LIKE
MY
EX-WIFE.



YOU
MEAN
ST--



ZIPPIT!
DON'T
SAY
IT,
FRANKLIN.



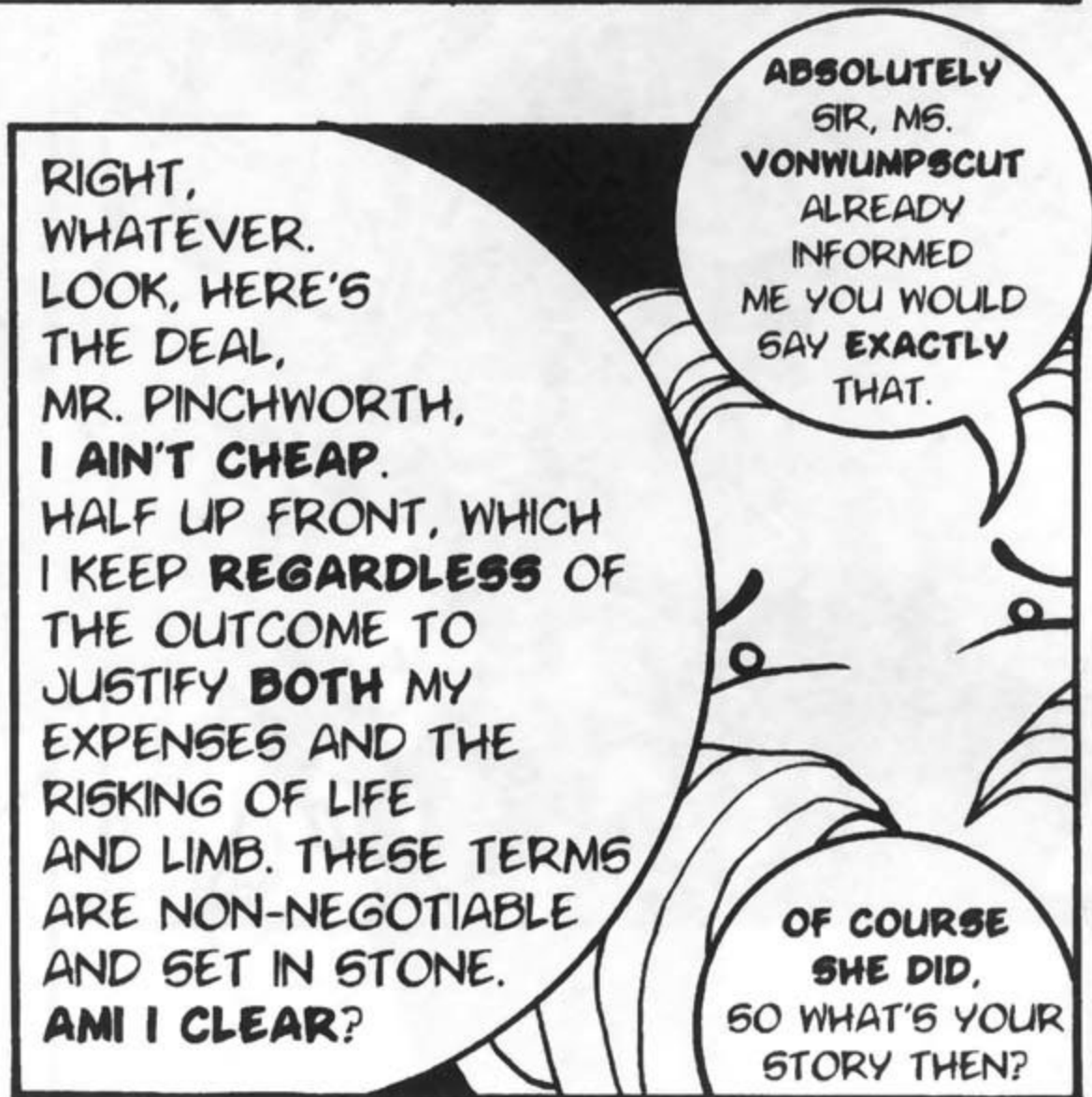
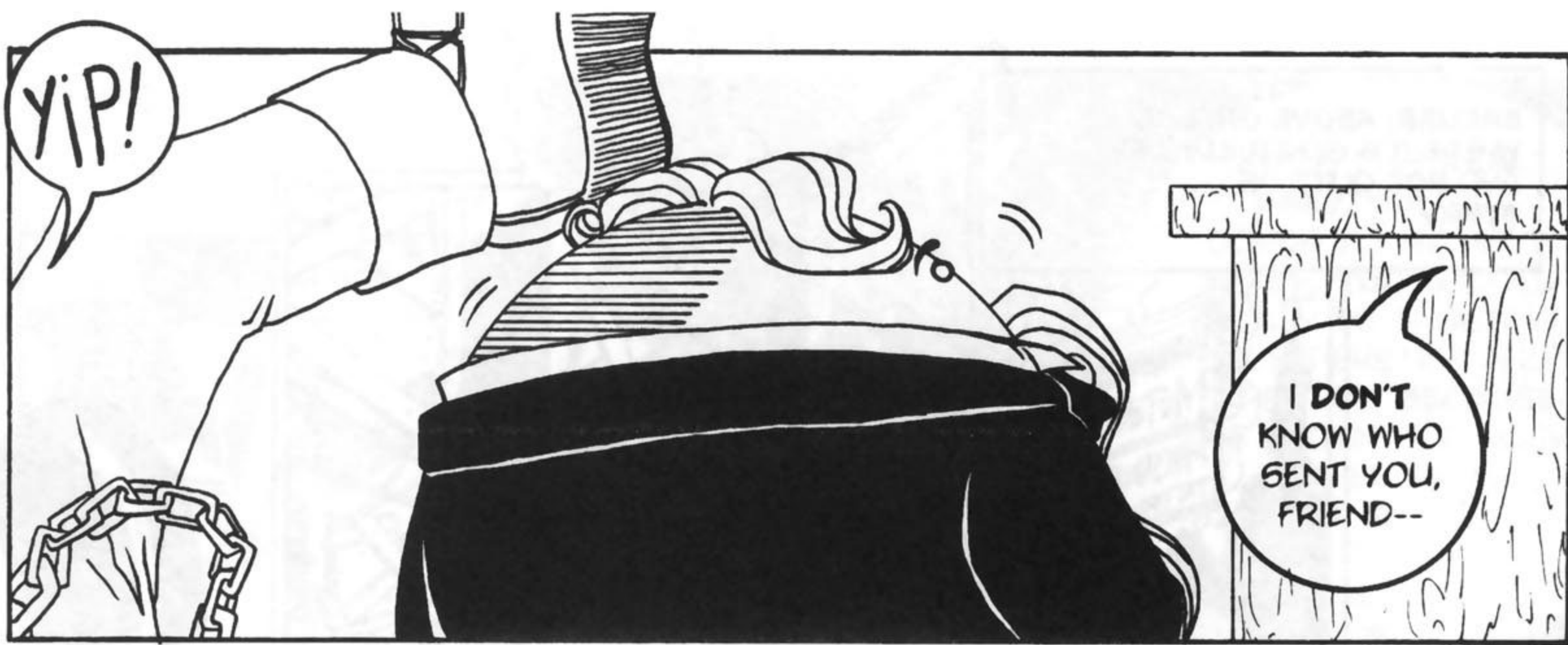
SORRY
MAN.



EARLIER: ABOVE GROUND,
WHERE IT'S GENERALLY DRY
AND NOT QUITE AS
STINKY . . .



PLEASE,
SIR, CAN
YOU TELL
ME WHERE I
COULD POSSIBLY
FIND THE FAMOUS
MR. 'PUMPKIN JACK?'
IT'S AN URGENT, AND
PERILOUS, MATTER
OF ABSOLUTE LIFE
AND DEATH!



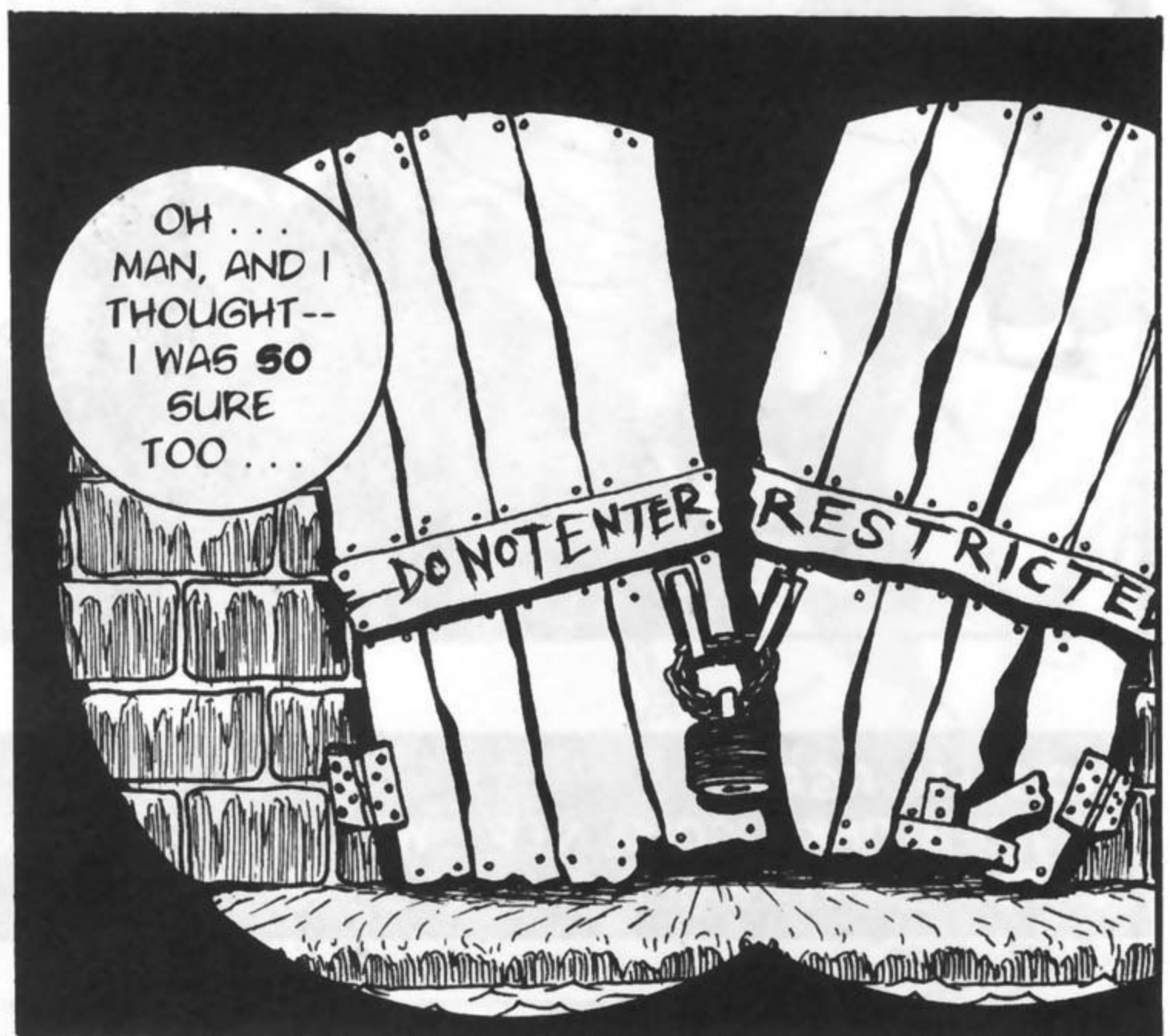
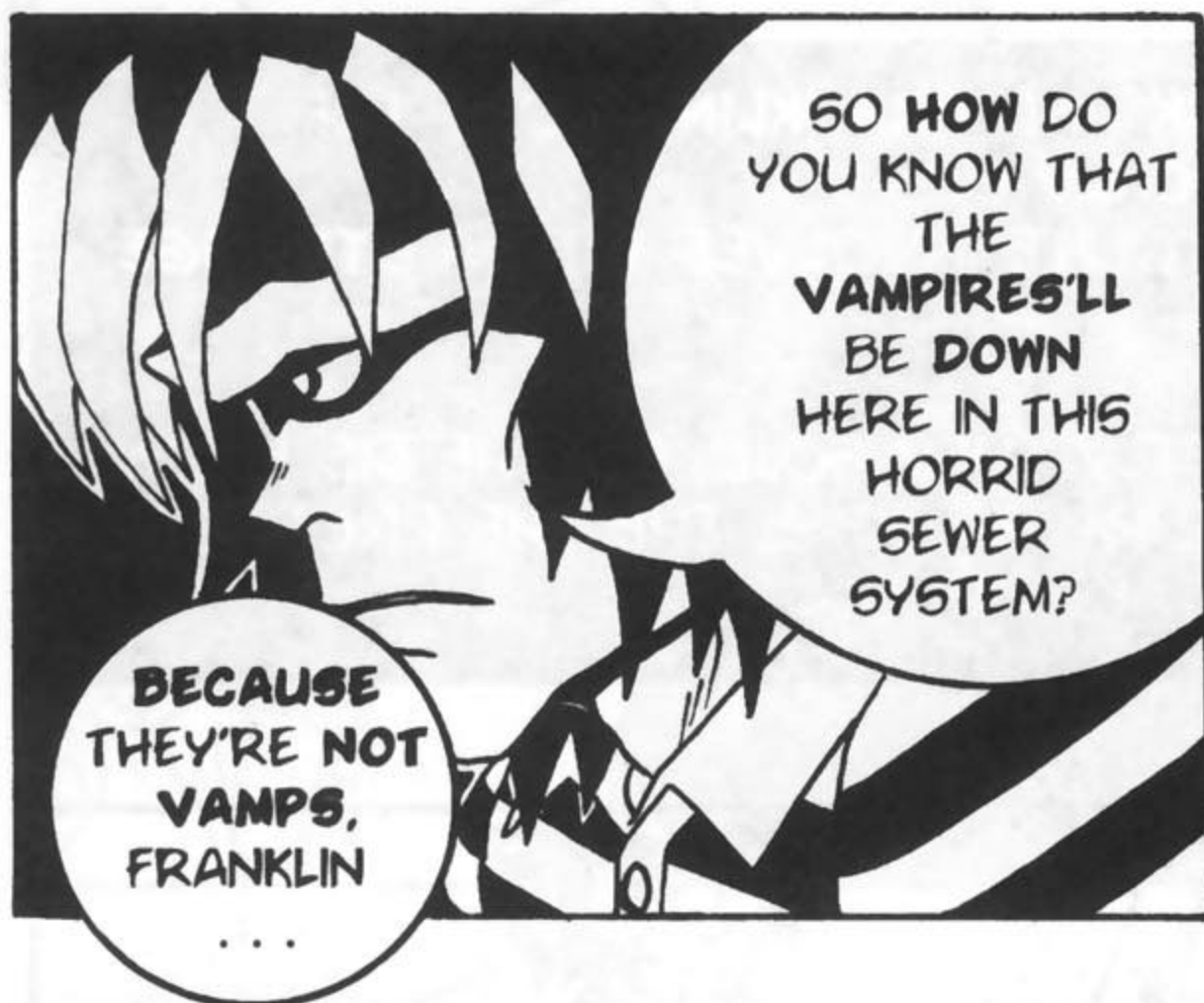
MR. PINCHWORTH BEGAN TO TELL JACK AND FRANKLIN ABOUT THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF HIS ONLY SON. HIS SON, HE EXPLAINED, HAD BECOME QUITE INVOLVED WITH A **STRANGE, DUBIOUS** PYRAMID SCHEME.

PINCHWORTH DIDN'T KNOW WHAT EXACTLY THEY SOLD, BUT HE DID KNOW THAT IT INVOLVED **LONGEVITY**, AND FURTHERMORE, THE THE PRODUCT CLAIMED TO INDUCE **LIFE ETERNAL** IF TAKEN REGULARLY.



NOW, ER, AGAIN:
IN THE **STINKY, COLD, VERY WET** AND GENERALLY
UNPLEASANT SEWER TUNNELS FAR BELOW . . .

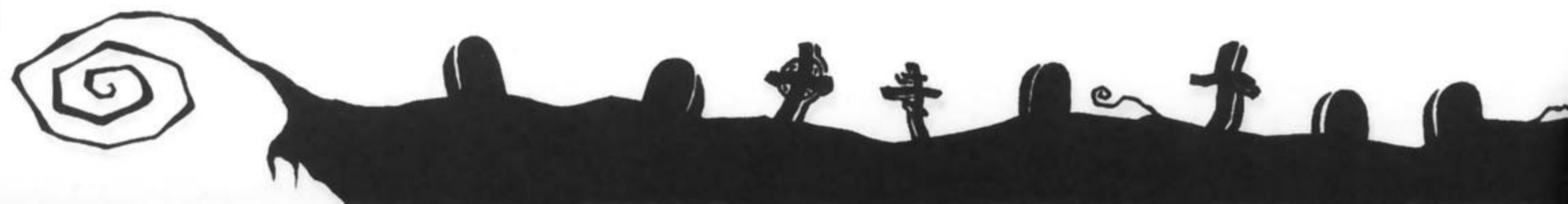










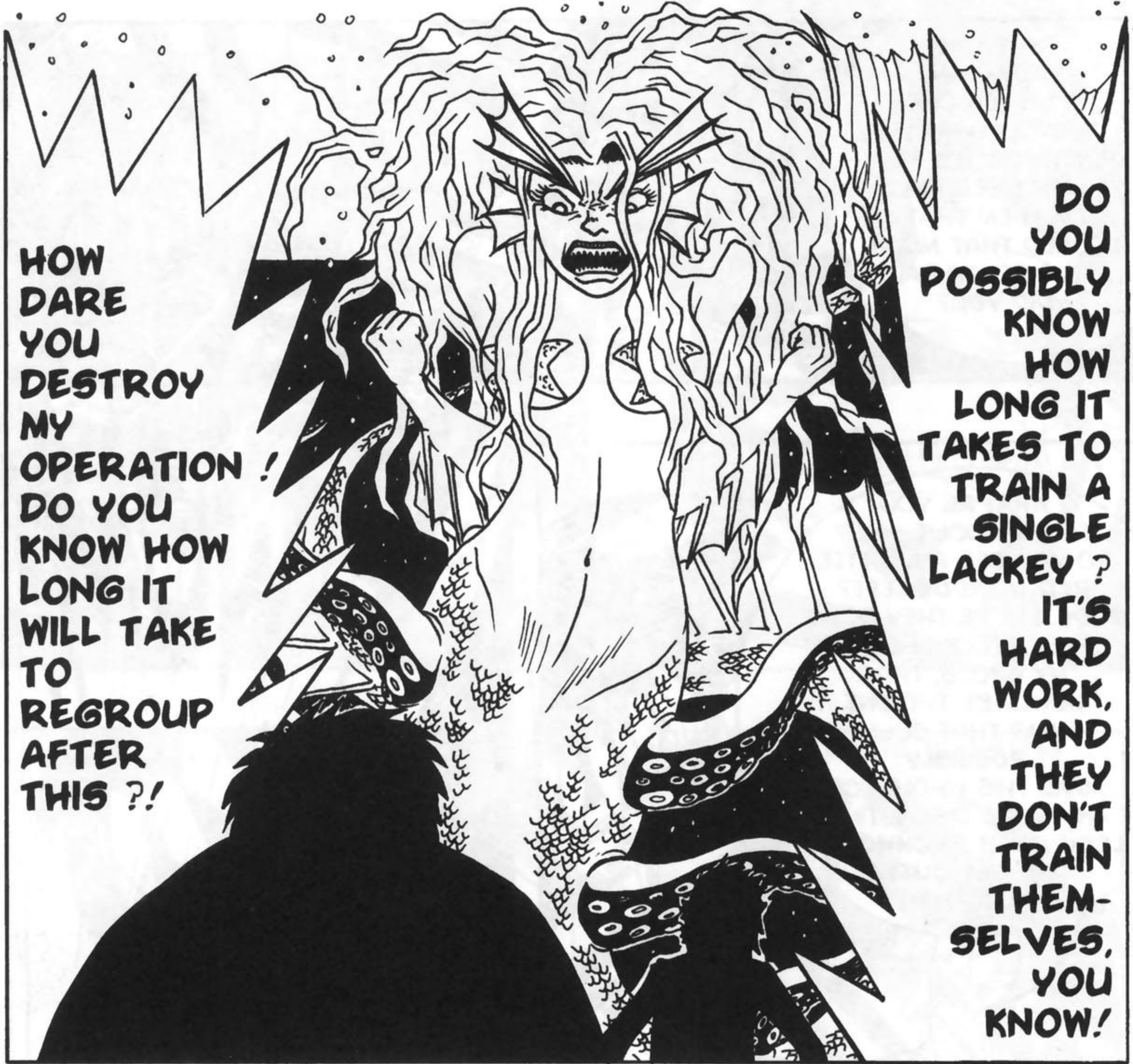


THAT WAS
EASY, MAN.
SO WHICH ONE
DO YOU THINK IS
PINCHWORTH'S KID?
I **DIDN'T** SEE ANY
OF THEM THAT
LOOKED THAT MUCH
LIKE A BEACH BALL
DID YOU?

IT'S
NOT OVER
YET
FRANKLIN.

WHAT'RE YOU
TALKIN' ABOUT, MAN?
DO YOU SEE ANY LITTLE
RED WEIRDOS LEFT?
GODS, I HOPE THEY DIDN'T
GET STUCK UNDER
MY SHOES, THAT
WOULD BE THE **ONE**
THING THAT COULD
POSSIBLY
MAKE THIS WHOLE JOB
ANY MORE DISGUSTING.
LET'S GRAB **PINCHWORTH**
AND GET **OUTTA'**
HERE, MAN.





HOW DARE YOU DESTROY MY OPERATION ! DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE TO REGROUP AFTER THIS ?!

DO YOU POSSIBLY KNOW HOW LONG IT TAKES TO TRAIN A SINGLE LACKEY ? IT'S HARD WORK, AND THEY DON'T TRAIN THEMSELVES, YOU KNOW!



I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW BORING IT IS TO BE RIGHT ALL THE TIME. SEE FRANKLIN, WHAT DID I SAY BEFORE WE CAME IN?



YOU SAID IT WAS A MERMAID ... BUT, MARLA ALWAYS SAID THAT MANATEES WAS MERMAIDS, MAN.



BUT, THIS LADY DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A MANATEE.

CLOSE. SAILORS USED TO MISTAKE MANATEES FOR THEM.

YOU SEE FRANKLIN, SOMETIMES THOSE BOYS WOULD BE OUT AT SEA FOR A VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY LONG TIME--



OK TOOTS, LEMMEE' GUESS. THE WHOLE, 'ETERNAL LIFE CAN BE GAINED FROM EATING MERMAID FLESH' THING, THAT WAS YOUR **BIG** PYRAMID SCHEME? WERE YOU **HACKING** OFF PIECES OF YOURSELF AND BOTTLING 'EM UP? BECAUSE, YOU SEEM PRETTY WHOLE AND INTACT.



MISERABLE MORTAL! WHY WOULD I EVER CAUSE HARM TO MY OWN BEAUTIFUL BEING?

HOW DARE YOU SUGGEST I SCAR THIS PERFECT FLESH!

I DON'T GET IT.

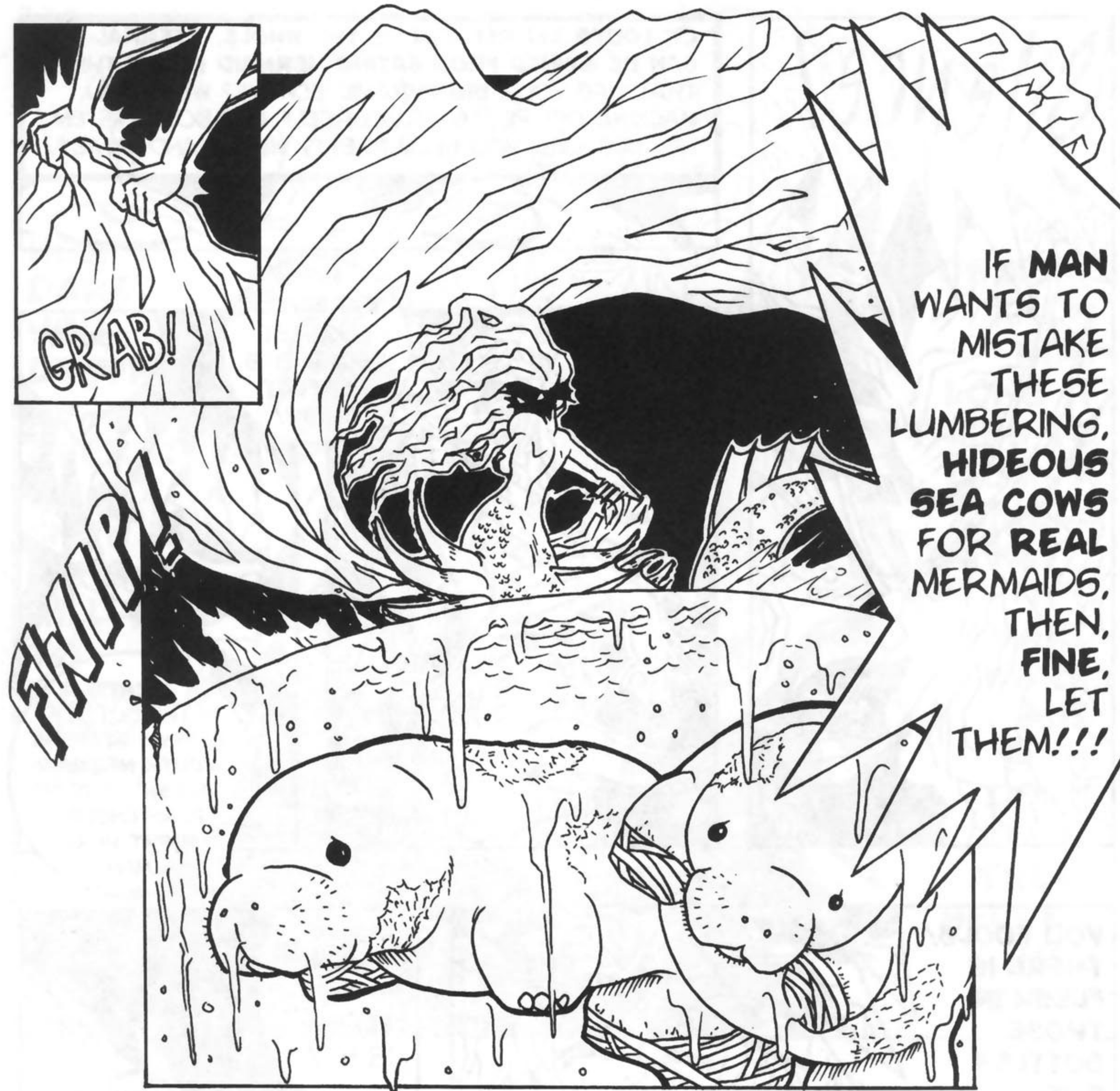
WHAT'S IN THE BOTTLES? IT SAYS 'ETERNAL YOUTH MERMAID FLESH' ON IT IN PLAIN ENGLISH RIGHT HERE, MAN.



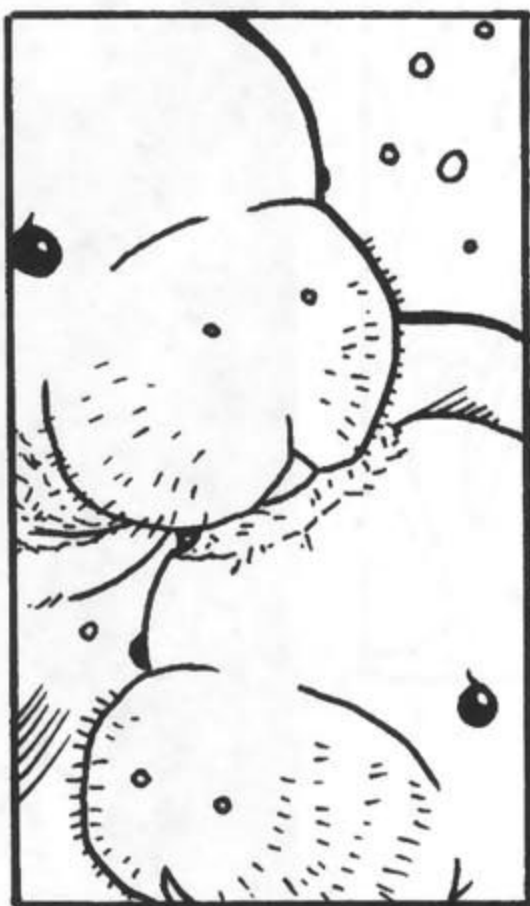
YOU FOOLS! THERE IS FLESH IN THOSE BOTTLES, BUT IT'S NOT MINE!
HO! HO! HO!
HO! HO! HO!
HO! HO! HO!
HO! HO! HO!



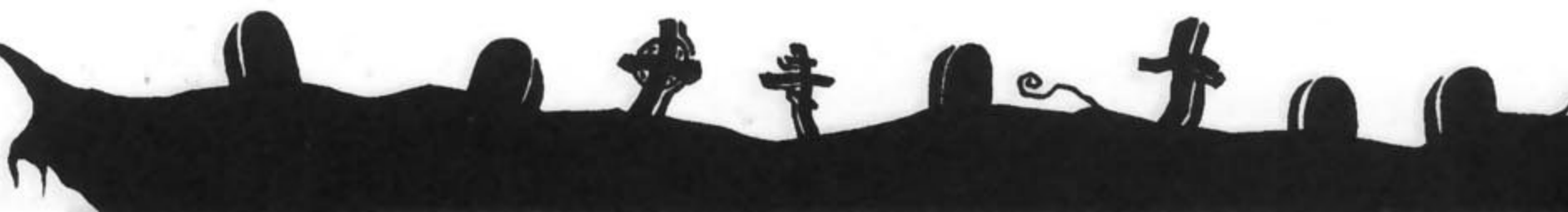
THEN WHOSE FLESH IS IT?!

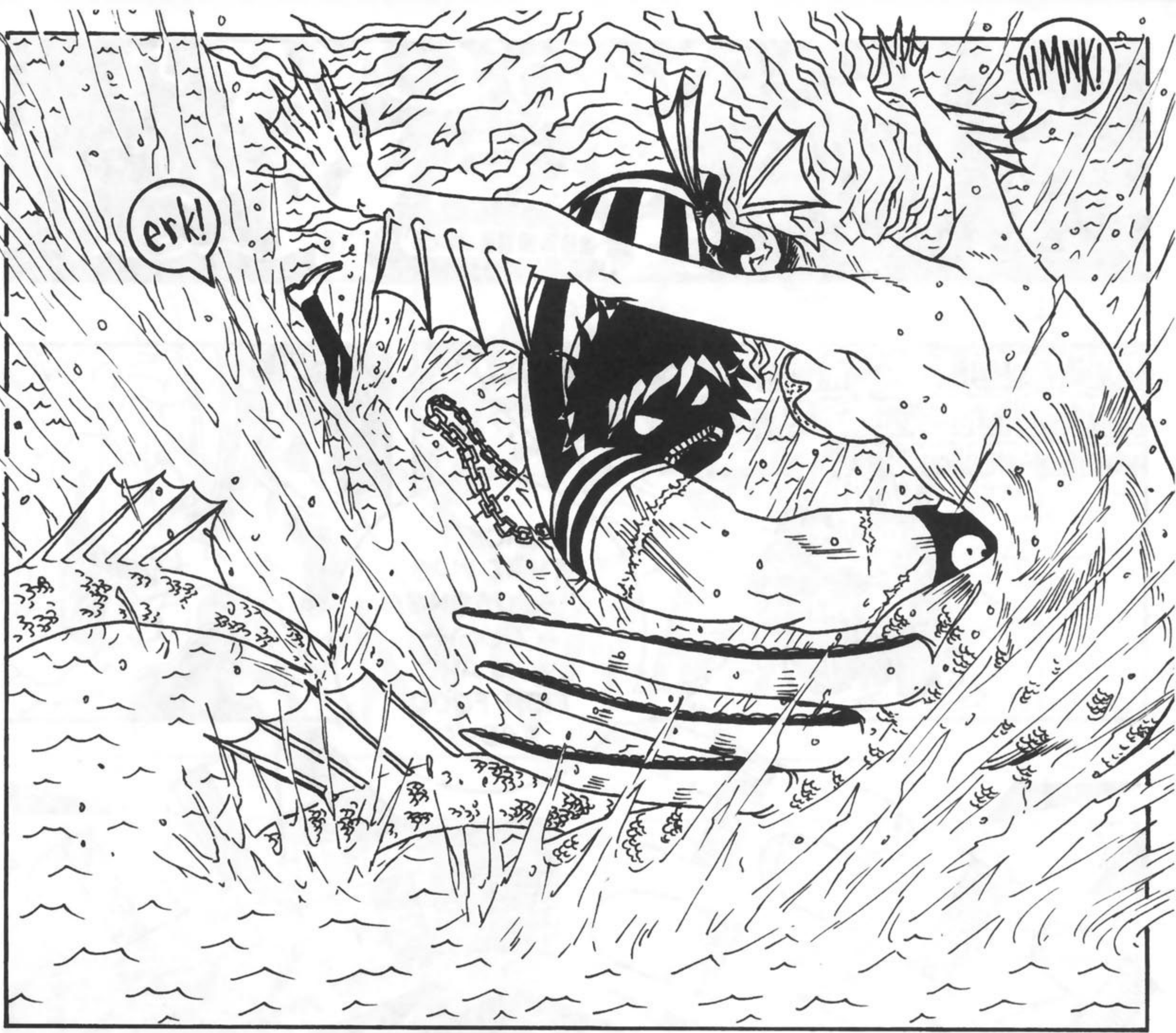


IF MAN
WANTS TO
MISTAKE
THESE
LUMBERING,
HIDEOUS
SEA COWS
FOR REAL
MERMAIDS,
THEN,
FINE,
LET
THEM!!!



THAT'S IT!
I'VE HAD
ENOUGH!
THIS WHOLE
THING
ENDS RIGHT
HERE--

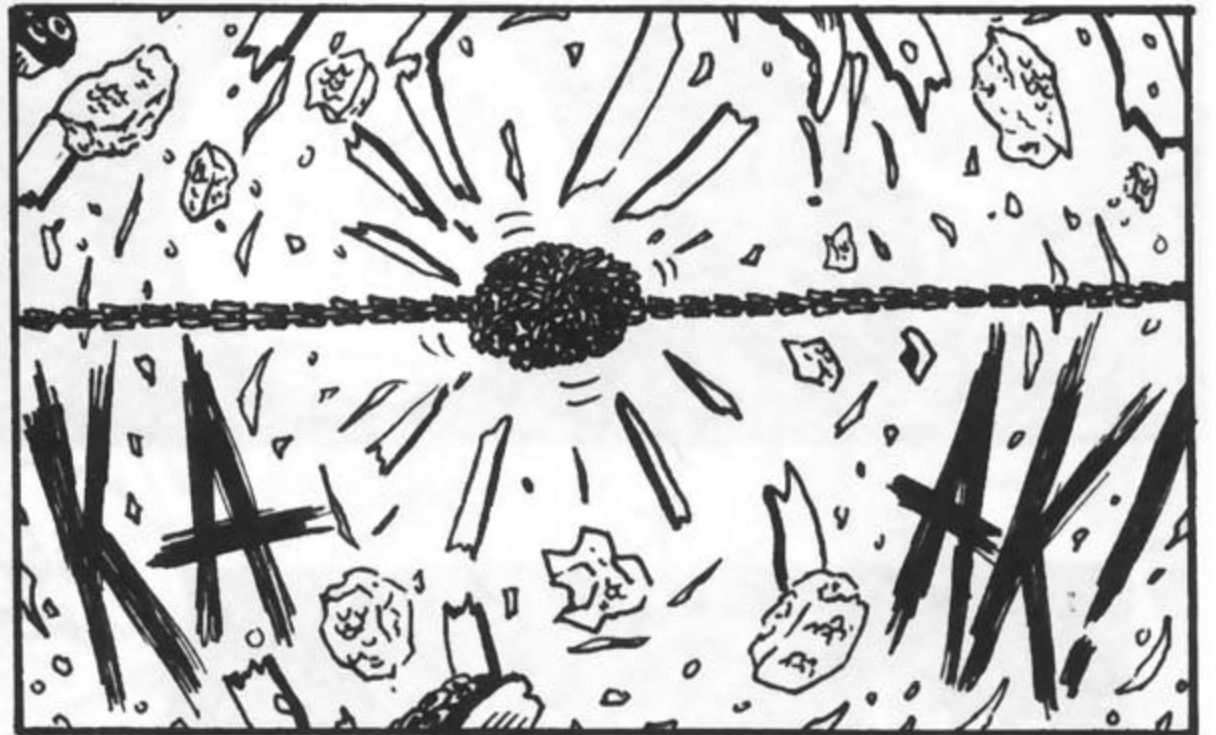






ACK!
THAT WAS
DISGUSTING!
COUGH
YOU ARE
FISH FOOD
LADY!





LATER: AFTER JACK AND FRANKLIN FINISHED SORTING THROUGH THE WRECKAGE, THEY DECIDED THAT **PINCHWORTH'S** SON WOULD BE ABLE TO FIND HIS WAY BACK TO HIS FATHER JUST FINE WITHOUT **THEIR** HELP. AFTERALL, THERE WERE **OTHERS** THERE THAT **WOULDN'T** BE ABLE TO FIND **THEIR** WAY HOME QUITE SO EASILY . . .

SPLish

SO, IF WE ATE THAT **MERMAID** WE COULD LIVE **FOREVER**, MAN?

SPloosh

THAT'S WHAT THE **OLD STORIES** SAY. YOU DON'T WANT TO LIVE **FOREVER** DO YOU?

NAH, I GUESS NOT. YOU?

NOT REALLY, NO.

'SIDES, I **HATE** EATIN' FISH, MAN. TASTES **DISGUSTIN'** AND YOU KNOW, FISHY.

ME TOO **FRANKLIN**, ME TOO . . .

SAY, JACK?

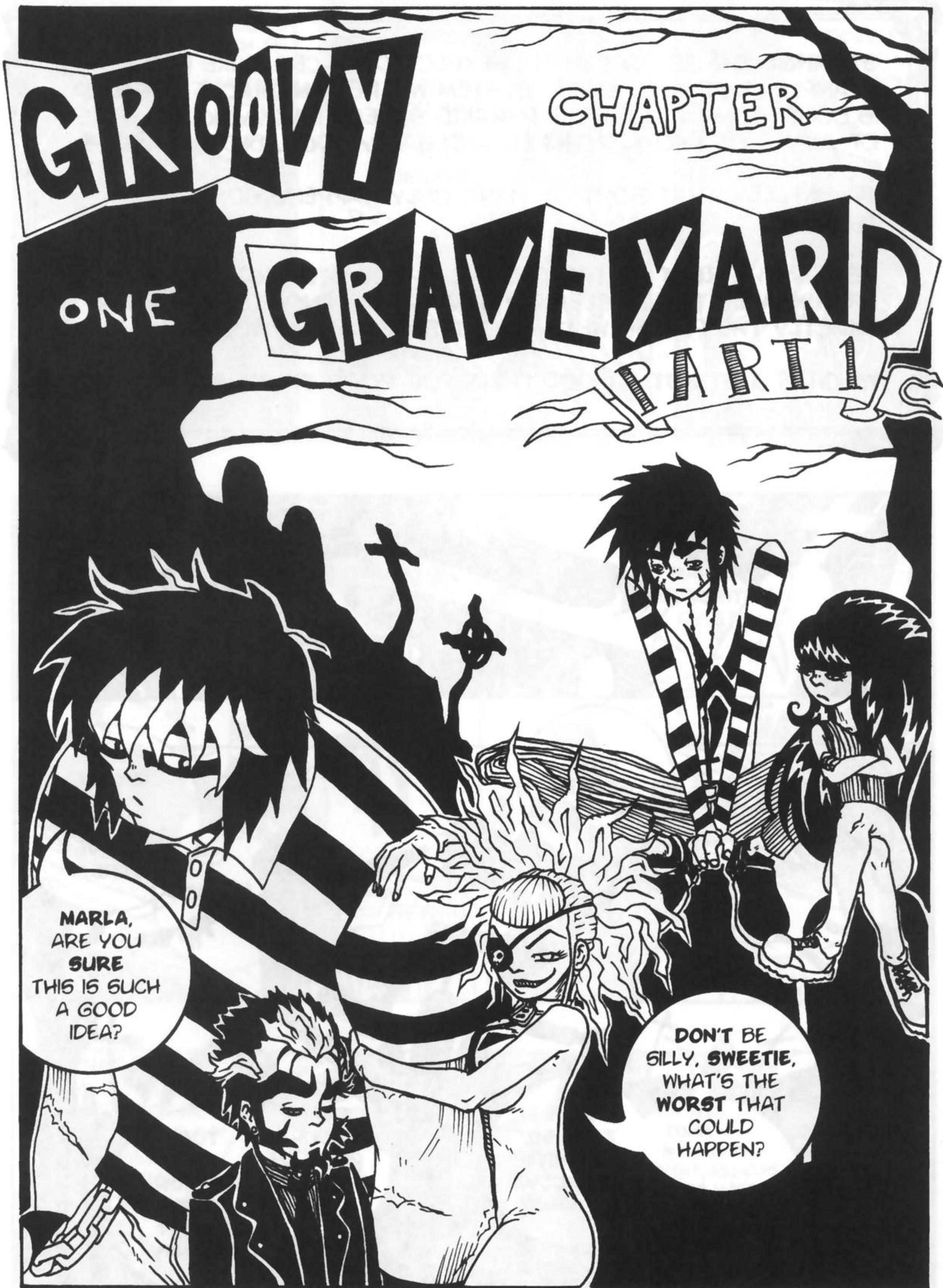
SPLish
SPloosh

THESE GUYS SURE ARE **CUTE**. YOU THINK WE CAN **KEEP 'EM**? MAYBE JUST **ONE**?

HMMMM?

ASK **MARLA** .

AWWW MAN . . .

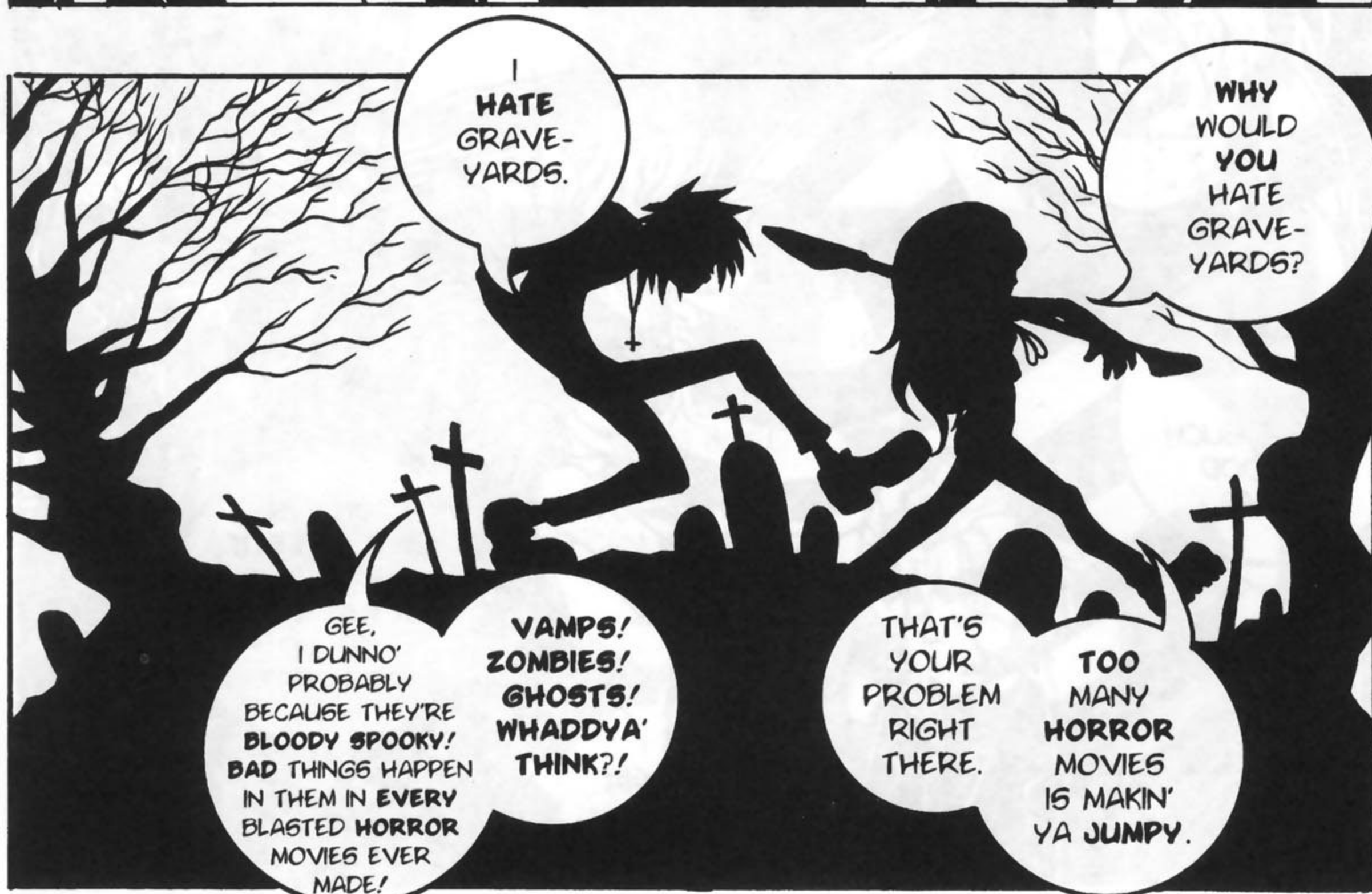


STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN IN UNEXPECTED PLACES. TAKE FOR EXAMPLE, A STINKING SEWER SYSTEM WHERE A **MANIACLE MERMAID** IS CONCOCTING A HORRIBLE PYRAMID SCHEME INVOLVING THE FLESH OF A PAIR OF TWO TORCHERED AND SADLY ADORABLE **MANATEES**.

THANKFULLY, THAT SORT OF THING ONLY HAPPENS SOME OF THE TIME.

AS FOR THE **REST** OF THE TIME, ALL THOSE **STRANGE, WEIRD, UNTHINKABLE** THINGS SEEM TO HAVE A TENDENCY TO HAPPEN IN **EXACTLY** THE PLACES WE THOUGHT THEY ALWAYS WOULD.

WHICH IS JUST **NOT** A GOOD THING FOR POOR **THADIUS**.





MARLA
SAYS I GOTTA
WATCH 'EM.
YOU KNOW,
RESEARCH
FOR THE
MONSTER
STUFF ...



THADIUS,
YOU ARE
ONE OF
THE
MONSTERS!



THAT
DOESN'T
MEAN THAT
THEY DON'T
STILL SCARE
ME ...



WHY
COULDN'T
FRANKLIN TAKE
THIS ONE?
HE'S A LOT
BETTER AT THIS
STUFF.

LOOK,
YOU'RE
MARLA'S
APPRENTICE
RIGHT?

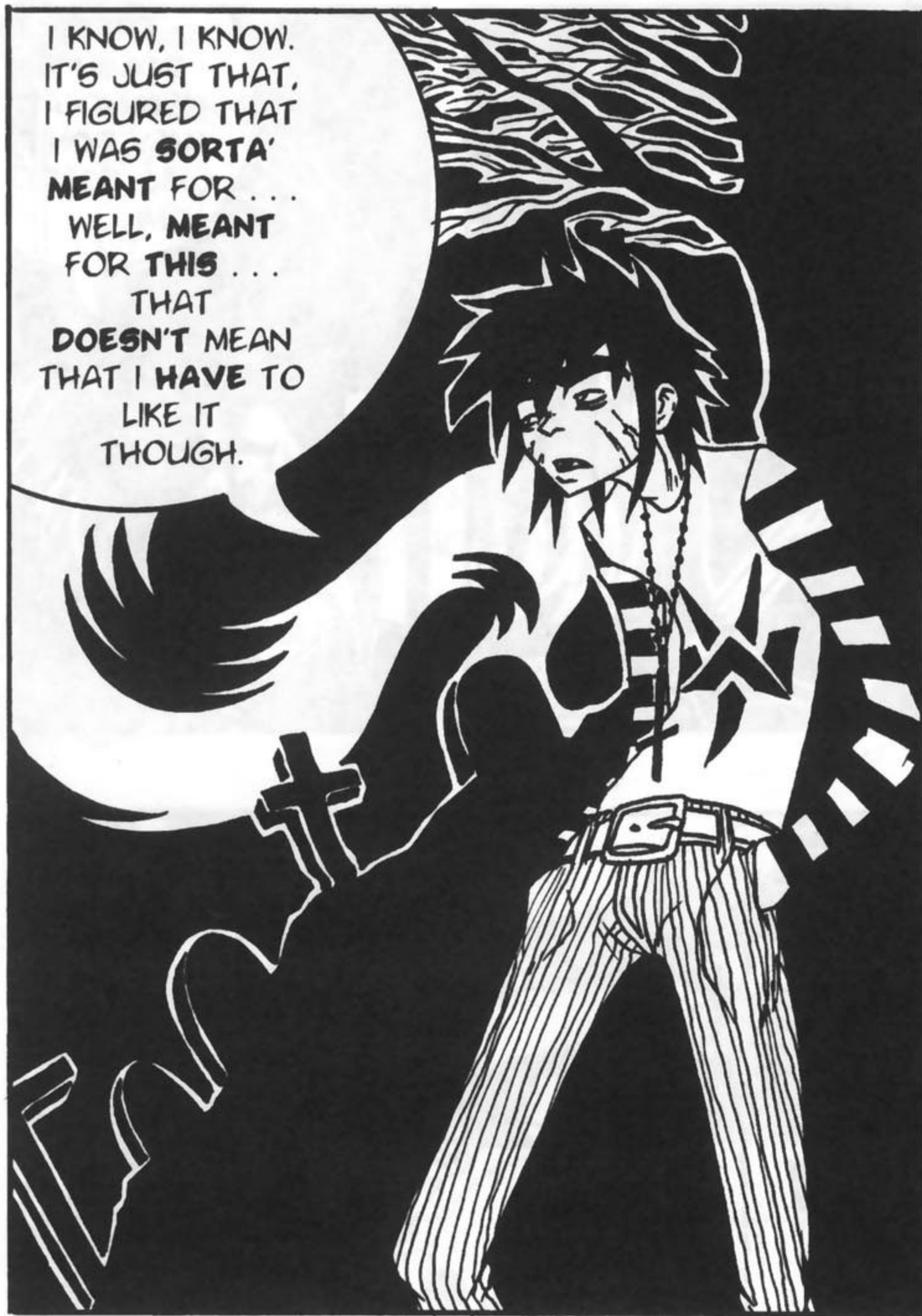
YEAH,
SO?



SO WHAT DO YOU
THINK IT IS THAT
SHE AND JACK DO?
WHAT DID YOU THINK
YOU WERE
APPRENTICIN'
FOR?

LOOK
AROUND,
THIS
IS IT.
THIS IS WHAT
IT'S ALL ABOUT,
RIGHT
HERE!

SPOOKY
MONSTERS,
CREATURES
THAT SLITHER
N' BITE,
AND YES,
THEY WILL BE
TRYING
VERY HARD
TO KILL YOU!



BUT, **THADIUS** WAS RIGHT. **GRAVEYARDS** ARE **SPOOKY**, AND **SCARY MONSTERS** REALLY DO HANG OUT THERE . . . I MEAN, **THADIUS** IS A **MONSTER**, AND WHAT WAS HE DOING? THAT'S RIGHT. HANGING OUT IN A **GRAVEYARD**. THE LOGIC IS HARD TO FIGHT, AND SO WAS **THADIUS'** GROWING SENSE OF **UNEASE**.

STRANGE THINGS DO HAPPEN IN **EXACTLY** WHERE WE EXPECT TO FIND THEM, BUT **STRANGE** DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN **SCARY**. OR SO, **THADIUS** SHOULD HOPE . . .

THAT **VERY** MORNING:
AT THE **VONWUMPS CUT MOTORS SHOPPE** - ALSO KNOWN AS THE
OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE CEMETERIANS.





YOU
SPOIL HIM
TOO MUCH.
YOU KNOW
THAT?



COME ON JACK, HAVE A
HEART FOR ONCE, YOU
SHRIVELED OLD TOAD.
CAN YOU **HONESTLY** REFUSE
ANYTHING THAT **FRANKLIN**
EVER ASKS? YOU'RE HIS
BEST FRIEND YOU KNOW.
HE **WORSHIPS**
YOU.



AND **WHAT**
EXACTLY DOES
THAT MAKE YOU,
DEAR
BABY SISTER?

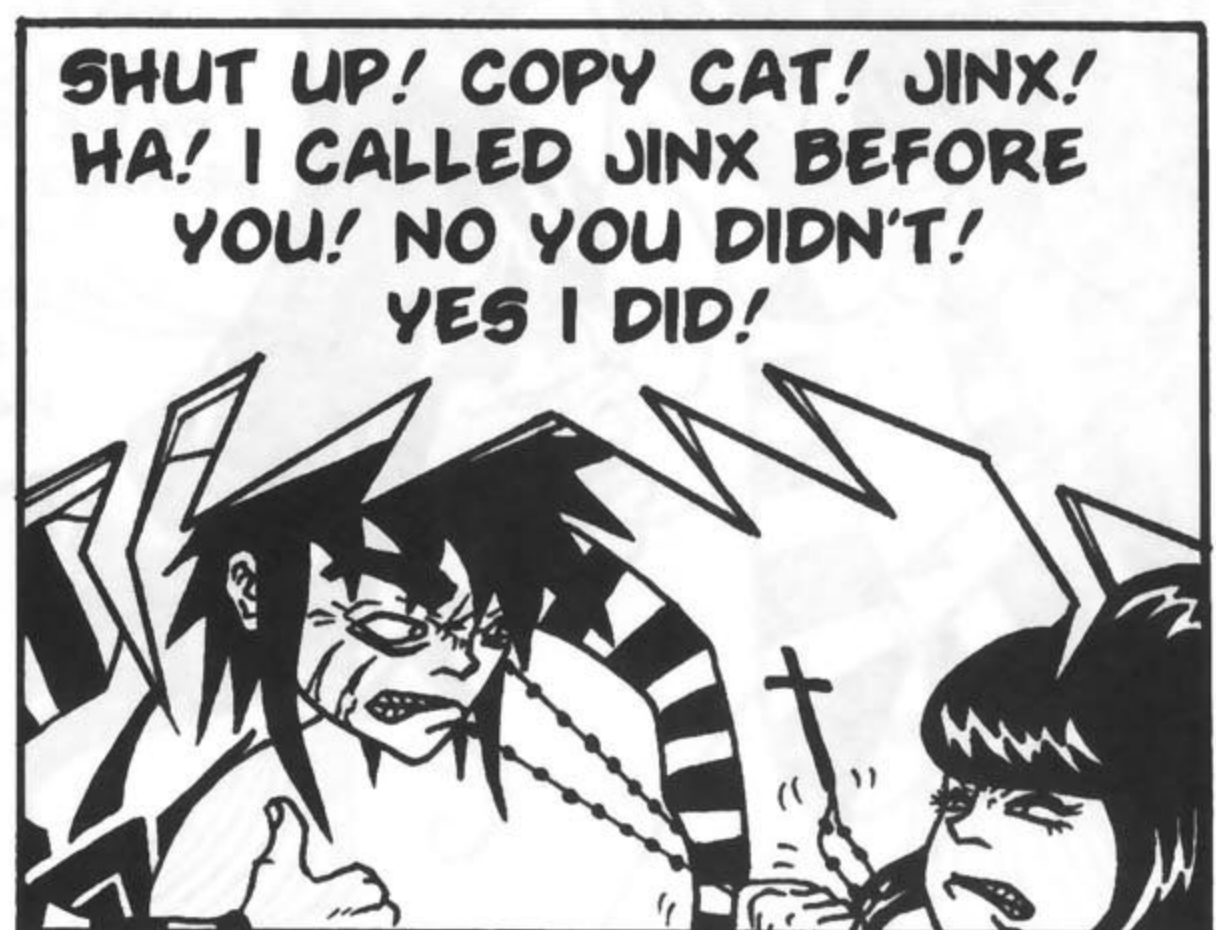


JACK!
I'M SORRY,
I DIDN'T KNOW
YOU WERE IN
THE
MIDDLE--

IT'S
ALRIGHT.
WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?







I'M TOO
OLD FOR THIS.
YOU WANTED US
TO TAKE ON
APPRENTICES,
YOU GET
TO BREAK
THEM UP.

AND
AFTER YOU
DO, I THINK
THEY NEED
TO RUN THIS LITTLE
ERRAND TONIGHT.
JUST THE TWO
OF THEM.

AND
JUST WHERE
THE HELLS
DO YOU THINK
YOU'RE GOING?
ONE OF THESE
MISFITS BELONGS
TO YOU,
YOU KNOW.

I SPENT
ALL NIGHT
TRUDGING
THROUGH THE
SEWERS UNDER
THIS FESTERING
METROPOLIS
AND TURNING
A GIANT
PSYCHO-MERMAID
MONSTER
INTO
SUSHI-BITES.

SO,
NOW I'M
GOING
TO
BED...



?!

BACK TO **SPOOKY GRAVEYARDS**:
ALMOST EXACTLY WHERE WE LEFT THEM BEFORE THE
FANCY FLASHBACK. I THINK THEY'VE MADE MAYBE TWENTY
OR THIRTY YARDS OF PROGRESS . . . MAYBE . . .

YOU
DO KNOW
THAT THIS IS
ALL YOUR
FAULT,
RIGHT?

AND
JUST HOW
DO YOU
FIGURE
THAT?

IF YOU
HAD JUST
LET ME WATCH
MY PROGRAM
WHEN THE
SCHEDULE
SAYS IT'S
MY
TURN,
THIS
WOULD
NEVER'VE
HAPPENED!

YEAH, BUT
WE'RE HERE
NOW. SO IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
DOES IT?
LET'S JUST
GET
THIS OVER
AND GET
HOME, OK?

YOU CAN
HAVE THE
STUPID TELLY
FOR THE REST
OF THE MONTH.
I JUST WANNA GET
OUTTA HERE.
THE **SOONER**
THE **BETTER**.

FINE,
MONSTER,
YOU
ARE.

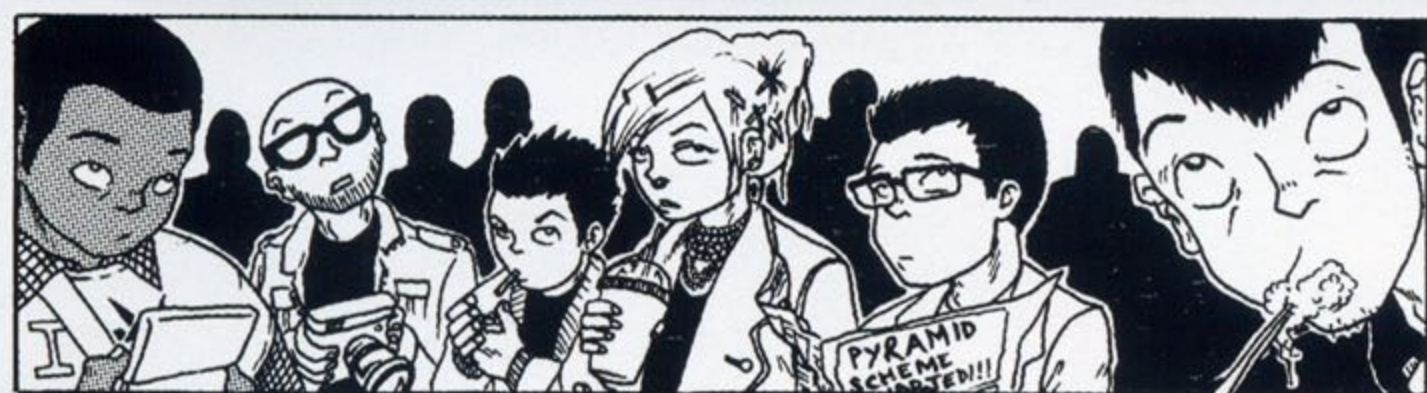
'I
YAM
WHAT I
YAM.'

AND
YOU'RE
STILL
A
WANKER.





TO BE CONTINUED...



In the next exciting installment of *The Cemeteryans*:

Thadius and Caitlin tackle the dangerous prowess of the evil *Woodoo Spotlight* amidst a horde of lecherous, *Fez* wearin' undead codgers! A new visitor comes to the hometown of our hapless heroes, bringing a fifty foot tall robot monstrosity to wreak havoc on their unsuspecting morning!

Can they handle the terrors of a spooky, fog shrouded graveyard? Can they tackle the titanic metal monster knocking at their door?

Tune in next issue to find out!

11/13/13

